Public Works (1903.) Department.

G.O., No. 323 J

DATED 14th March 1903.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Transfer of lands from "dry" to "wet"

Pros: Revenue Department, recording Board's Pros: sanctioning the transfer to "double-crop wet" of certain "dry" lands irrigated by the Periyar Project in the Periyakulam taluk, recorded.

Dr

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PWC 1677

Government {1903} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 13 - 2 - } 1903 Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 29, 20th January 1903.

JANUARY.

B Order thereon No. 323 Day 14 March 19

Recorded.

To, The Chief Engr for Irrign.
" S. E. 6th Circle

15/2/03

17/2/03

Issue

26/2/03

Transfer of lands from "dry" to "wet".

Recording, with remark, Board's Proceedings sanctioning the transfer to "double-crop wet" of certain "dry" lands irrigated by the Periyár project in the Periyakulam taluk.

DESPATCHED 14 MAR. 1903

17-3-3

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 4279, dated 23rd July 1902 :—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. N. Atkinson, I.C.S.

Read—the following letter from Colonel A. W. SMART, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 27th June 1902, No. 192-M. :—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 6145, dated 14th November 1901, I have the honour to state that the recommendation of the Collector of Madura to convert 527·1 acres of lands in the Periyakulam taluk from "dry" cultivation to "double-crop wet" may be accepted. The Collector's list is herewith returned.

Resolution—Mis. No. 4279, dated 23rd July 1902.

Communicated to the Collector of Madura. The transfer of the lands referred to from "dry" to "double-crop wet" is sanctioned.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. D. SWAMIKANNU,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Madura.

Copy to the Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, with copy of
Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 6145,
dated 14th November 1901.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 6145, dated 14th November 1901.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. N. Atkinson, I.C.S.

Read—the following letter from A. G. CARDEW, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 13th October 1901, R. Dis. No. 977-Rev.:—

In Mr. Twigg's letter No. B., dated 26th June 1897, it was proposed to sanction the conversion into double-crop wet, of such lands in the Periyakulam taluk as have been rendered actually unfit for dry cultivation by the advent of Periyár water. This was sanctioned in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 7523, dated 11th September 1897, subject to the condition that no increase over the extent habitually cultivated with wet crop be allowed. The condition thus annexed appears to be somewhat in conflict with the proposal which was sanctioned as a field which was not habitually cultivated with wet crop before the Periyár scheme was carried out may now be unfit for dry cultivation. In such a case it is not, it is presumed, intended to refuse to allow the conversion into double-crop wet of land, which is unfit for anything else, and the main point is to ensure that every case which is reported to be unfit for dry cultivation is closely scrutinized and that no unnecessary conversion is allowed.

2. Under orders issued from this office in 1899, a list has been prepared of all lands in the Periyakulam taluk which are recommended for conversion from dry cultivation into two crop wet. This list is herewith enclosed, and it shows the following extents :—

	ACS.
Area actually cultivated with wet crops before the Periyár scheme	160·65
Area habitually cultivated with wet crops since the Periyár scheme	224·42
Further area now found unfit for dry cultivation	141 94
Total ...	527·1

Sanction is accordingly solicited to the transfer of this area from dry to double-crop wet.

3. On this subject the Executive Engineer, Madura, writes as follows in a letter No. 522-S. E., dated 27th August 1901, to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle :—

"There is another matter mixed up with the irrigated lands in the Suruliyar which received the attention of the Sub-Collector and myself on this occasion and that was the subject of extensions of irrigation. It is an undoubted fact that these Suruliyar systems have benefited to a large extent by the improvement in their supply. This is shown by the increase in double-crop area and the certainty with which cultivation now proceeds. The total possible extensions without making any new channels is 2,100 acres (to the nearest hundred); were new channels excavated, it would be possible to increase this by perhaps as much as 1 000 acres. Of this 2,100 acres, 588 acres was cultivated wet during last fasli. The Sub-Collector is of opinion that the whole 2,100 acres should be permitted to be converted. With this opinion I do not agree taking the more urgent need for extensions in Madura and Melúr taluks into consideration. I am, however, of opinion that the dry land, which owing to the much improved supply has been rendered unfit for dry crops, should be permitted to be converted. The land I referred to is situate similarly to those lands in the Project proper known as *drainage-affected.* They should, I think, be assessed at Rs. 8 per acre, *i.e.*, double-crop rates. The drainage-affected lands are drainage-affected from two causes—one natural and due to improved supply to neighbouring old wet and the other due to the action of the owner, who has lowered his lands to make them cultivable with wet crops. These latter I would eliminate from the list and would refuse permission to. The total area of drainage-affected lands is reported by the Tahsildar to be 728·80 acres. This figure, I believe, to be between two and three hundred acres over the correct area. The latter can be correctly ascertained by a responsible officer of this department and reported on, if the principle of permitting the conversion of drainage-affected lands is approved, and I urge that it should be.

"As regards other extensions, I am of opinion that they should be taken up when the impounding of the water that surpluses from the lake has been effected. This is a question that I need not enter into here as I have already submitted a preliminary report on the subject."

It will thus be seen that the Executive Engineer's estimate of the area which should be allowed to be converted closely approximates that now recommended, and that there is a substantial agreement as to the principles to be followed.

4. The Executive Engineer's remarks contemplate the deputation of a Public Works Officer to determine in detail the individual fields as to which conversion is to be allowed. The list herewith submitted may be taken as representing the views of the Revenue Department on this subject, and may be communicated to the Public Works Department as the basis of any further investigation to be made by that department. Such investigation should be taken in hand at an early date.

5. Pending the final settlement by such further investigation by the Public Works Department, the approval of the Board is requested to the suspension of the levy of penal assessment for the use of Periyár water on lands included in the list herewith enclosed, as recommended by the Sub-Collector.

Resolution—Mis. No. 6145, dated 14th November 1901.

The Collector's letter, with the list received therewith, will be forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation with reference to the correspondence ending with his letter No. 249-M., dated 29th July 1897, for favour of remarks, after such investigation as may be deemed necessary.

2. Meanwhile, the Collector's recommendation to charge single water-rate on the lands referred to is approved.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, with list in original.
,, Collector of Madura.

Read—again the following Official Memorandum, No. 295, Revenue, dated 16th August 1902 :—

[*Reference.*—Board's Proceedings (Settlement), Mis. No. 4279, dated 23rd July 1902.]

Official Memorandum—No. 295, Revenue, dated, 16th August 1902.

It is stated in the Executive Engineer's letter, dated 27th August 1901, that the "dry" lands in question, on their conversion to "wet" should "be assessed at Rs. 8 per acre, *i.e.*, double-crop rates". The Board of Revenue is requested to explain how this rate has been arrived at, and also to report the difference between the charges payable before and after conversion.

(By Order.)

(Signed) N. E. MARJORIBANKS,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 6748, dated 20th November 1902 :—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. N. Atkinson, I.C.S.

Read—again the following Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 4918, dated 21st August 1902: —

Read—Official Memorandum No. 295, Revenue, dated 16th August 1902.

Resolution—Mis. No. 4918, dated 21st August 1902.

Forwarded to the Collector of Madura for report.

2. The 8-rupee rate quoted in the Executive Engineer's letter referred to by Government is presumably the total of water charges for two "wet" crops on "dry" lands, but it is understood that, when the lands referred to are transferred to "double-crop wet," the appropriate Periyár "double-crop wet" rates of assessment would be charged. The Collector is requested to report whether this is so, and what the total amounts of the old "dry" and the new "wet" assessments on the 527 acres transferred to "wet," are.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Madura.

Read—also the following letter from A. G. CARDEW, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture), No. 1252-Rev., dated 8th November 1902:—

In reply to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 4918, dated 21st August 1902, I have the honour to state that the Board's presumption in paragraph 2 of the reference under reply, that Rs. 8 represent water-rate for two crops on "dry" lands, is correct.

2. A statement showing the total amounts of the old "dry" and new "wet" assessments on the 527 acres transferred to "wet" is enclosed. The old "dry" assessment and water-rate for two crops on the above extent amounts to Rs. 4,773–7–0, while the new "double-crop wet" assessment comes to Rs. 4,529–10–0. In the former case, the cultivation with two "wet" crops and the payment of the water-rate of Rs. 8 per acre is optional and cannot be enforced unless the owners elect to cultivate.

Resolution—Mis. No. 6748, dated 20th November 1902.

Submitted to Government, with reference to Official Memorandum, No. 295, Revenue, dated 16th August 1902.

2. The 8-rupee rate referred to by the Executive Engineer is the water-rate for two "wet" crops on "dry" lands. On the lands now transferred to "wet," the appropriate "double-crop wet" assessment has been charged at rates varying from Rs. 3–12–0 to Rs. 11–4–0 per acre. The "dry" assessment before the conversion was Rs. 557–6–0, and water-rate at Rs. 8 an acre would amount to Rs. 4,216–1–0, making a total of Rs. 4,773–7–0. The "wet" assessment imposed after the conversion is Rs. 4,529–10–0, which is Rs. 243–13–0 less than the combined total of "dry" assessment and water-rate. Without the conversion, however, the ryots could not be compelled to take water and raise two crops.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) V. K. RAMANUJA CHARI,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with a statement in original to be returned.

Enclosure.

Statement showing the assessment and extent of lands affected by Periyár drainage and proposed to be transferred to wet.

Taluk.	Class or taram with reference to the sort of soil.	Extent.	Rate of dry assessment per acre.			Total dry assessment.			Rate of double-crop wet assessment.			Total double-crop wet assessment.		
1	2	3	4			5			6			7		
		ACS.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Periyakulam.	II	12·41	1	8	0	18	10	0	11	4	0	139	10	0
	III	250· 6	1	4	0	312	9	0	9	12	0	2,438	1	0
	IV	115·96	1	0	0	115	15	0	8	4	0	956	11	0
	V	143·80	0	12	0	107	14	0	6	12	0	970	10	0
	VI	4·47	0	8	0	2	4	0	5	4	0	23	7	0
	VII	·31	0	6	0	0	2	0	3	12	0	1	3	0
	Total ..	527·1	....			557	6	0	....			4,529	10	0

Taluk.	Class or taram with reference to the sort of soil.	Difference of columns 5 and 7.			Water-rate at Rs. 8 per acre on extent shown in column 3.			Total of columns 5 and 9.			Increase or decrease of column 10 over column 7.		
	8	9			10			11			12		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Periyakulam.	II	121	0	0	99	4	0	117	14	0	— 21	12	0
	III	2,125	8	0	2,000	8	0	2,315	1	0	— 125	0	0
	IV	840	12	0	927	11	0	1,043	10	0	+ 86	15	0
	V	862	12	0	1,150	6	0	1,258	4	0	+ 287	10	0
	VI	21	3	0	35	12	0	38	0	0	+ 14	9	0
	VII	1	1	0	2	8	0	2	10	0	+ 1	7	0
	Total ..	3,972	4	0	4,216	1	0	4,773	7	0	+ 243	13	0

Order—No. 29, Revenue, dated 20th January 1903.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government presume that the puttahdars concerned have consented to the transfer of the lands from "dry" to "double-crop wet".

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
,, the Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch.)

Forwarded to the P. W. Deptt.

(By Order.)
C. Ratnavelu Mudr.
Registrar.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

45 Copies.